REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application is respectfully requested.

In this preliminary amendment, the specification was amended to include a cross-reference to claim benefit of U.S. provisional application Serial No. 60/402,411, filed August 9, 2002.

Consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are thus respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward W. Grolz

Registration No. 33,705

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser 400 Garden City Plaza, Suite 300 Garden City, New York 11530 (516) 742-4343 EWG:gc